

STEPHEN F. LYNCH  
8TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT  
AND REFORM

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

ASSISTANT DEMOCRATIC WHIP

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June 12, 2019

Jane A. Rothchild, Presiding Officer  
Department of Environmental Protection  
One Winter Street  
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Presiding Officer Rothchild:

I am writing today regarding the deeply troubling actions of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) concerning the issuance of an air quality permit for the construction of a compressor station in Weymouth. As a result of recent press reports, which revealed that the air quality testing data initially presented was inconsistent and incomplete, I strongly urge you to issue a de novo review of the entire process that will guarantee that all the necessary data is properly researched, completed and submitted. In addition, I ask that the public's due process rights be fully and fairly restored to ensure all stakeholders, especially the families who reside in the impacted area, have an opportunity to comment on the new data presented.

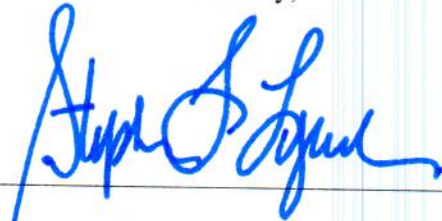
Over the last several weeks, the permitting approval process has revealed gaping insufficiencies that compromise the integrity of the DEP process. The agency's deficient air quality tests, ambiguous appeals proceedings, as well as newly introduced data, prove that the air quality plan approval was indeed in error. The failure to provide sufficient data regarding the presence of 64 potential toxins surrounding the compressor station site, as well as the undermining approach to deliver this error one day before an appeal hearing is egregious.

This lack of oversight and transparency erodes the trust that our constituents, state officials, and other concerned parties have in the permit approval process. I stand with my constituents from Weymouth, Quincy, and Braintree in respectfully requesting you exercise your authority as the presiding officer to reject the plan approval and have the applicant re-start the process and submit a new plan that includes all the data in question and grants the public a full opportunity to review those findings and submit comments.

It is clear that this lack of proper oversight only adds to the dangers this compressor station installment adds to the surrounding communities. By revoking the erroneous air quality plan, we

can begin to restore trust and transparency within the permitting and appeals process. There is no place for mistakes when it comes to our public's health."

Sincerely,



Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress